

REMARKS

Claims 21-24, 32, 36, 39, 42-45, 47-48, 55, 61, 67-70, 74-82 and 84-114 are pending. Claim 21 has been amended to recite all conserved 8 cysteine residues as shown in Figure 3. No new matter is added by the amendments to the claims.

Provisional Double Patenting

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-90 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over one or more claims of copending Application Nos. 09/219,442; 09/247,272; 09/936,726; and 10/060,523. Claims 1-20, 25-31, 33-35, 37-38, 40-41, 46, 49-54, 56-60, 62-66, 71-74 and 83 were previously canceled. This rejection will be addressed as it is applied to the pending claims.

Applicants agree to file a Terminal Disclaimer in the instant case over any of the claims as currently pending in any of the cited cases that issue or are allowed prior to allowance of the instant application.

Scope of Enablement and Written Description

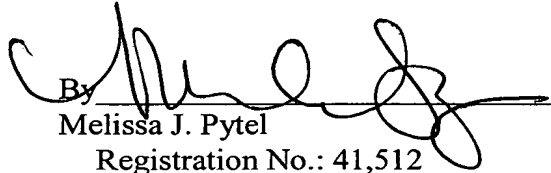
The Examiner has rejected claims 21-24 and 91-93 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as not enabled and as lacking written description. Both rejections hinge on the fact that claims 21-24 and 91-93 are directed only towards 4 of the 8 conserved cysteines. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have amended claim 21 to recite all 8 conserved cysteines as shown in Figure 3. Claims 22-24 and 91-93 depend from claim 21. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claim 21 overcomes these rejections.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments above be entered. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below if any further action by Applicant would expedite the examination of this application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 08-3425. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Dated: August 27, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

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